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## ABSTRACT

This invention relates to novel nucleic acids and polypeptide sequences, which code for an interferon-beta-2 ("IFN- $\beta$ 2"). A pharmaceutical composition, which comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient and a therapeutically effective amount of a human IFN- $\beta$ 2 polypeptide, biologically-active fragment thereof, or biologically-active derivative thereof, is useful in treating multiple sclerosis in humans.